

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 HA-05 EB-08
DCT-02 SY-05 TRSE-00 EUR-12 /098 W
-----080642 151247Z /50

P 142113Z MAY 80
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5367
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/TPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s): NR

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

[REDACTED] SECTION 1 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 4024

E.O. 12065: XDS-1 5/14/00 (CASTRO RAUL H.) OR-M

1. [REDACTED] ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THROUGH GOOD AUSPICES OF ALUSNA, I WAS ABLE TO ARRANGE LUNCHEON MEETING WITH ADMIRAL ARMANDO LAMBRUSCHINI, NAVAL COMMANDER AND JUNTA MEMBER, AT EMBASSY RESIDENCE. AT THE ADMIRAL'S INSISTENCE, JUST TWO OF US WERE PRESENT.

3. DIRTY WAR AND USG POLICY TOWARDS GOA:
ADMIRAL LAMBRUSCHINI CAME TO EMBASSY RESIDENCE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS TWO BODY-GUARDS, WHO REMAINED OUTSIDE. THE ADMIRAL APPEARED TO BE A PERSON CARRYING ALL THE BURDENS OF THE WORLD ON HIS SHOULDERS. HE SEEMED SOMBER BUT FRIENDLY. TWO FAST SCOTCH AND SODAS SEEMED TO RELAX LAMBRUSCHINI. TO BREAK THE ICE, I ASKED THE ADMIRAL "HOW IS YOUR COMMAND DOING?" HIS REPLY WAS NOT RESPONSIVE TO MY QUESTION. INSTEAD LAMBRUSCHINI WENT INTO A LONG DISSERTATION ON THE "DIRTY WAR" AND HOW THE USG FAILED TO UNDERSTAND GOA'S DILEMMA IN FIGHTING MARXISM. HE WAS DEAD SERIOUS--SHOOK HIS HEAD-- AND COMMENTED " FOR THE SAKE OF OUR RELATIONS, I JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY USG HAS TURNED ITS BACK ON US AND KEEPS DRIVING OUR COUNTRY INTO THE HANDS OF THE SOVIETS." THERE WAS NO QUESTION IN MY MIND HE WAS SINCERE IN WHAT HE WAS SAYING. AS IN A FORGIVING MANNER,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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LAMBRUSCHINI STATED USG POLICY TOWARDS GOA AND LATIN AMERICA

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WAS A GROSS ERROR AND TOTALLY MISGUIDED. HE FURTHER EXPLAINED IT WASN'T DONE IN MALICE BUT ONLY IN IGNORANCE. HE KEPT REPEATING PRESIDENT CARTER WAS WELL-INTENTIONED BUT THAT IN HIS OPINION THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORS ON LATIN AMERICA WERE NOT KNOWLEDGEABLE OF THE AREA. THE ADMIRAL SEEMS TO BE DEEPLY PERTURBED WITH OUR HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY TOWARDS GOA. EVERY TIME I MEET WITH HIM HE GIVES ME A REPEAT PERFORMANCE ON THE "DIRTY WAR." COMMENT: LAMBRUSCHINI'S ATTITUDE IS UNDERSTANDABLE AS HIS SIXTEEN-YEAR OLD DAUGHTER WAS BLOWN TO BITS BY A TERRORIST BOMB WHILE SHE WAS ASLEEP. END COMMENT.

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6. TERRORISTS:

THE MORE WE SPOKE THE GLOOMIER MY GOOD FRIEND BECAME. HE APPEARED TO BE IN A DRINKING MOOD AS HE NEVER MISSED A ROUND. LAMBRUSCHINI THEN TOLD ME HE HAD INFORMATION TERRORISTS WERE COMING BACK INTO ARGENTINA IN SMALL NUMBERS AND INFILTRATING ALL UNIVERSITIES PLUS FACTORIES. HE SAID HE WAS CONVINCED THE TERRORISTS WEREN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO MAKE A GENERAL IMPACT BUT WERE IN CONDITION TO CONDUCT ISOLATED OPERATIONS. HE TOLD ME HIS INTELLIGENCE UNITS WERE CLOSELY MONITORING ALL

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UNIVERSITIES AND SOME OF THE FACTORIES.

NR

COMMENT: LAMBRUSCHINI IS A SERIOUS, PROFESSIONAL NAVAL
COMMANDER. HE APPEARS MOODY AT ALL TIMES AND IS NOT THE
CHARISMATIC TYPE OF HIS PREDECESSOR--ADMIRAL MASSERA. HE

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IS VERY PRO-AMERICAN AND FEELS HURT THAT THE COUNTRY HE ADMIRES AS THE LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD HAS FAILED TO SUPPORT THEM IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST COMMUNISM. IN OUR CONVERSATION, HE WAS QUITE CRITICAL OF THE EXTEND GOA HAD BEEN PLAYING UP TO THE SOVIETS. HE EXPLAINED THE WHEAT BUSINESS WAS ONLY A SCHEME TO MAKE A FAST BUCK. LAMBRUSCHINI BLAMED MARTINEZ DE HOZ FOR THE ROMANCE WITH THE SOVIETS. THE ADMIRAL'S VIEW WAS THAT THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY WAS ONLY INTERESTED IN BUILDING UP HIS BANK RESERVES AND DIDN'T GIVE A "HOOT" OF THE SECURITY OF THE COUNTRY. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SINCE MY BEING IN ARGENTINA THAT A MEMBER OF THE JUNTA HAS BEEN WILLING TO COME TO THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE AND MEET WITH THE AMBASSADOR ON A ONE-TO-ONE BASIS. I GET THE FEELING LAMBRUSCHINI WANTS US VERY BADLY TO GET INVOLVED IN THE BEAGLE AFFAIR AND ALSO WANTS RELATIONS BETWEEN USG AND GOA TO PROSPER.
CASTRO

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